

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

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December 20, 2013

TO:

Department Heads

FROM:

Wendy L. Watanabe Pluny J. Watanabe Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT:

INTERNAL CONTROL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR FISCAL

YEAR 2013-14

County Code Section 2.10.015 requires each County department to review and evaluate its internal controls annually. The County Code also requires each department head to submit a letter to the Auditor-Controller certifying that they have completed the internal control evaluation accurately by May 15th of each year.

The Internal Control Certification Program (ICCP) is a set of internal control worksheets/guestionnaires based on the control requirements in the County Fiscal Manual (CFM). The ICCP is the tool departments are required to use to evaluate internal controls. Implementing and maintaining proper internal controls is essential to safeguard County assets, provide accurate financial records, ensure compliance with County and departmental policies, and promote efficient and effective operations. Many of the internal control deficiencies noted in our ongoing compliance audits of County departments (e.g., payroll/personnel audits, etc.) could have been identified and corrected by departments if they had completed the ICCP properly.

The ICCP worksheets for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 are based on the December 2013 CFM, which includes updated internal control requirements. My staff provided copies of the ICCP worksheets, lead pages, and specific instructions for completing the ICCP to your department's ICCP coordinator. As indicated in the instructions, the completed FY 2013-14 ICCP and Fiscal Compliance Certification letter are due by May 15, 2014, and can be submitted electronically to ICCP@auditor.lacounty.gov, or the documents can be written to a CD-R and mailed to:

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> Department of Auditor-Controller Audit Division 350 S. Figueroa Street, 8th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90071 Attention: Ms. Jeannette Torres

If you or your staff have any questions or concerns, please contact Ken Van Orden at (213) 253-0160 or kvanorden@auditor.lacounty.gov.

WLW:AB:RS:MP

c: Chief Deputies
Administrative Deputies
Audit Committee
Departmental ICCP Coordinators